

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please substitute the following paragraph(s) for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification, with the new abstract, as amended below.

~~A axial~~An axial flow rotary valve rotatable within a bore in a cylinder ~~head (9)~~ head of an internal combustion engine has a port extending from a peripheral ~~opening (4)~~ opening to an axial opening at one end of the valve. The peripheral ~~opening (4)~~ opening, which periodically communicates with a combustion ~~chamber (30)~~ chamber through a ~~window (8)~~ window in the bore, has a first trailing ~~edge (13)~~ edge. The ~~window (8)~~ window has a second trailing edge ~~(12)~~ edge. The port closes from the combustion ~~chamber (30)~~ chamber as the first trailing edge ~~(13)~~ edge passes the second trailing edge ~~(12)~~ edge. The edges ~~(12, 13)~~ are disposed such that the instantaneous intersection ~~point (17)~~ point of the two edges ~~(12, 13)~~ progressively moves away from the axial opening over at least 50% of the length of the ~~window (8)~~ window as the port closes.